

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 18, 2001

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 826

Introduced by Assembly Member Cohn

February 22, 2001

An act to amend Sections 4050 ~~and 4051~~, 4051, and 4052 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to pharmacists.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 826, as amended, Cohn. Pharmaceutical practice: prescriptions.

Under existing law, a pharmacist may authorize initiation of a prescription and provide clinical advice or information or patient consultation from outside a pharmacy premises if certain conditions are met *and may adjust the drug regimen of a patient for care provided by specified facilities*. Existing law makes a knowing violation of the Pharmacy Law a crime.

This bill would, with respect to the requirements for initiation of prescriptions and providing clinical advice or information or patient consultation, delete the restriction that the transaction occur outside of a pharmacy premises. The bill would require that a pharmacist's initiation of a prescription be pursuant to specified provisions.

This bill would revise the requirement for *the* providing of clinical advice, information, or client consultation to specify that the advice, information, or consultation be provided to a health care professional or a patient. *The bill would also authorize a pharmacist to initiate the drug regimen of a patient in specified facilities pursuant to a written*

order or authorization by the patient's prescriber and would require the pharmacist to provide written or electronic notification of that action.

This bill would impose a state-mandated local provision by changing existing crimes and creating new crimes.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4050 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:

3 4050. (a) In recognition of and consistent with the decisions
4 of the appellate courts of this state, the Legislature hereby declares
5 the practice of pharmacy to be a profession.

6 (b) Pharmacy practice is a dynamic patient-oriented health
7 service that applies a scientific body of knowledge to improve and
8 promote patient health by means of appropriate drug use,
9 drug-related therapy, and communication for clinical and
10 consultative purposes.

11 SEC. 2. Section 4051 of the Business and Professions Code
12 is amended to read:

13 4051. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it is
14 unlawful for any person to manufacture, compound, furnish, sell,
15 or dispense any dangerous drug or dangerous device, or to
16 dispense or compound any prescription pursuant to Section 4040
17 of a prescriber unless he or she is a pharmacist under this chapter.

18 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, a pharmacist may authorize
19 the initiation of a prescription, pursuant to Section 4052, and
20 otherwise provide clinical advice or information or patient
21 consultation if all of the following conditions are met:

22 (1) The clinical advice or information or patient consultation is
23 provided to a health care professional or to a patient.



(2) The pharmacist has access to prescription, patient profile, or other relevant medical information for purposes of patient and clinical consultation and advice.

(3) Access to the information described in paragraph (2) is secure from unauthorized access and use.

SEC. 3. *Section 4052 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:*

4052. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pharmacist may:

(1) Furnish a reasonable quantity of compounded medication to a prescriber for office use by the prescriber.

(2) Transmit a valid prescription to another pharmacist.

(3) Administer, orally or topically, drugs and biologicals pursuant to a prescriber's order.

(4) Perform the following procedures or functions in a licensed health care facility in accordance with policies, procedures, or protocols developed by health professionals, including physicians, pharmacists, and registered nurses, with the concurrence of the facility administrator:

(A) Ordering or performing routine drug therapy-related patient assessment procedures including temperature, pulse, and respiration.

(B) Ordering drug therapy-related laboratory tests.

(C) Administering drugs and biologicals by injection pursuant to a prescriber's order (the administration of immunizations under the supervision of a prescriber may also be performed outside of a licensed health care facility).

(D) Initiating or adjusting the drug regimen of a patient pursuant to an order or authorization made by the patient's prescriber and in accordance with the policies, procedures, or protocols of the licensed health care facility.

(5) (A) Perform the following procedures or functions as part of the care provided by a health care facility, a licensed home health agency, a licensed clinic in which there is a physician oversight, a provider who contracts with a licensed health care service plan with regard to the care or services provided to the enrollees of that health care service plan, or a physician, in accordance, as applicable, with policies, procedures, or protocols of that facility, the home health agency, the licensed clinic, the

1 health care service plan, or that physician, in accordance with
2 subparagraph (C):

3 (i) Ordering or performing routine drug therapy-related patient
4 assessment procedures including temperature, pulse, and
5 respiration.

6 (ii) Ordering drug therapy related laboratory tests.

7 (iii) Administering drugs and biologicals by injection pursuant
8 to a prescriber's order (the administration of immunizations under
9 the supervision of a prescriber may also be performed outside of
10 a licensed health care facility).

11 (iv) ~~Adjusting~~ *Initiating or adjusting* the drug regimen of a
12 patient pursuant to a specific written order or authorization made
13 by the patient's prescriber for the individual patient, and in
14 accordance with the policies, procedures, or protocols of the health
15 care facility, home health agency, licensed clinic, health care
16 service plan, or physician. Adjusting the drug regimen does not
17 include substituting or selecting a different drug, except as
18 authorized by ~~Section 4073~~ *the protocol. The pharmacist shall*
19 *provide written notification to the patient's prescriber, or enter the*
20 *appropriate information in an electronic patient record system*
21 *shared by the prescriber, of any drug regimen initiated pursuant to*
22 *this clause within 24 hours.*

23 (B) A patient's prescriber may prohibit, by written instruction,
24 any adjustment or change in the patient's drug regimen by the
25 pharmacist.

26 (C) The policies, procedures, or protocols referred to in this
27 paragraph shall be developed by health care professionals,
28 including physicians, pharmacists, and registered nurses, and, at
29 a minimum, meet all of the following requirements:

30 (i) Require that the pharmacist function as part of a
31 multidisciplinary group that includes physicians and direct care
32 registered nurses. The multidisciplinary group shall determine the
33 appropriate participation of the pharmacist and the direct care
34 registered nurse.

35 (ii) Require that the medical records of the patient be available
36 to both the patient's prescriber and the pharmacist.

37 (iii) Require that the procedures to be performed by the
38 pharmacist relate to a condition for which the patient has first been
39 seen by a physician.



(iv) Except for procedures or functions provided by a health care facility, a licensed clinic in which there is physician oversight, or a provider who contracts with a licensed health care plan with regard to the care or services provided to the enrollees of that health care service plan, require the procedures to be performed in accordance with a written, patient-specific protocol approved by the treating or supervising physician. Any change, adjustment, or modification of an approved preexisting treatment or drug therapy shall be provided in writing to the treating or supervising physician within 24 hours.

(6) Manufacture, measure, fit to the patient, or sell and repair dangerous devices or furnish instructions to the patient or the patient's representative concerning the use of those devices.

(7) Provide consultation to patients and professional information, including clinical or pharmacological information, advice, or consultation to other health care professionals.

(b) Prior to performing any procedure authorized by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a), a pharmacist shall have received appropriate training as prescribed in the policies and procedures of the licensed health care facility. Prior to performing any procedure authorized by paragraph (5) of subdivision (a), a pharmacist shall have either (1) successfully completed clinical residency training or (2) demonstrated clinical experience in direct patient care delivery.

(c) Nothing in this section shall affect the requirements of existing law relating to maintaining the confidentiality of medical records.

(d) Nothing in this section shall affect the requirements of existing law relating to the licensing of a health care facility.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.